DEPARTMENT OF STATE

915

09 DEC 1980

Dear Mr. Teegarden:

Thank you for your letter to President Carter concerning the course of events in the Republic of Korea and the fate of opposition leader Kim Dae Jung. As always, we appreciate having your views on important human rights issues.

The U.S. Government has followed the trial with intense interest. We share your concern and are in continuing communication with Korean authorities, who are fully aware of our views. Mr. Kim's case is presently undergoing judicial review which we are monitoring very carefully.

Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Dyess
Assistant Secretary of State
for Public Affairs

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY HT DATE 8/
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

The Reverend Kenneth L. Teegarden,
General Minister and President,
Christian Church,
222 S. Downey, P.O. Box 1986,
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

8021840

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 28, 1980

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 081153

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED NOVEMBER 21, 1980

TO: PRESIDENT CARTER

FROM: MR. KENNETH L. TEEGARDEN
GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
222 S. DOWNEY
POST OFFICE BOX 1986
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46206

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO PRESS THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT TO SPARE THE LIFE OF MR. KIM DAE JUNG, WHOSE DEATH SENTENCE IS TO BE REVIEWED BY THE SOUTH KOREAN SUPREME COURT DEC 5 80

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL — IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-2717.

RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 94, THE WHITE HOUSE

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
MARY MARTHA SEAL
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O OUTGOING
H - INTERNAL
I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM DD) 80 11 12

ID # 081153

Name of Correspondent: Kenneth A. Tregaskis

✓ **MI Mail Report** **User Codes: (A)** _____ **(B)** _____ **(C)** _____

Subject: Urges the President to prevail the South Korean government to spare the life of Mr. Kim Dae Jung, whose death sentence is to be reversed by the South Korean Supreme Court Dec. 5, 1980

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
Office Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM DD	Type of Response	Completion Date Code YY/MM DD
✓ dw Wolfe		ORIGINATOR	DD 80 11 26		PY 80 11 26
✓ 19 DOS		K	80 11 28		
		Referral Note			
		Referral Note			
		Referral Note			
		Referral Note			

ACTION CODES
A - Appropriate Action
C - Comments
D - Draft Response
F - Fact Sheet
I - Info Copy
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES
A - Answered
B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE
Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

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Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
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1/80

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Prime Subject Code: CO 082.02 Secondary Subject Codes: Hu RM 033.99

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form

C ____ Time: ____ P. ____

DSP ____ Time: ____ Media: ____

SIGNATURE CODES

CP: Presidential Correspondence
- n 1 James Earl Carter
- n 2 Jimmy Carter
- n 3 Jimmy
- n 4 JC
- n 5 J

CL: First Lady's Correspondence
- n 1 Rosalynn Carter
- n 2 Rosalynn
- n 3 R

CB Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
- 1 1 Jimmy Carter / Rosalynn Carter
- 1 2 Jimmy / Rosalynn

MEDIA CODES

- B Box package
- C Copy
- D Official document
- G Message
- H Handcarried
- L Letter
- M Mailgram
- O Memo
- P Photo
- R Report
- S Sealed
- T Telegram
- V Telephone
- X Miscellaneous
- Y Study

LISTED IN WHO'S WHO

PROJECT 1967

8024840

November 21, 1980

Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
In The United States And Canada
GENERAL OFFICE
222 S DOWNEY
P O BOX 1986
INDIANAPOLIS,
INDIANA 46206
(317) 353 1491

Kenneth L. Teegarden
General Minister and President

Thomas J Youngblood, Jr
Moderator
San Antonio, Texas
Charlotte Ethel
First Vice Moderator
Sullivan, Illinois
Oscar Haynes
Second Vice Moderator
Washington D C

President Jimmy Carter
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Carter:

On behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) which in its General Assembly has expressed concern about human rights in Korea, and in keeping with your own selfless pursuit of human rights, I would urge you to press the South Korean government with all of the leverage at your command to spare the life of Mr. Kim Dae Jung. As you know, Mr. Kim is a former presidential candidate, opposition leader and a prominent Christian layman whose death sentence is to be reviewed by the South Korean supreme court December 5.

The execution of this man, who is a symbol of the right to organize opposition in a country, would almost certainly result in domestic violence and brutal repression in South Korea, heightening any threat from the North and causing strained relations and security concerns among our own people. Would you appeal to the South Korean government that execution of Mr. Kim would not be in the best interests of their country?

Sincerely,

Kenneth L. Teegarden

General Minister and President

KLTeegarden/ll